

BLACK OAK SCHOOL



EDUCATION For DEMOCRACY

DEMOCRACY For EDUCATION

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BLACK OAK SCHOOL BULLETIN

May, 1954

A copy of this bulletin is issued to every family that have pupils in the Black Oak School. We hope that this bulletin will be helpful in understanding school policy.

We know that this bulletin is not complete, but we have tried to include as many topics of interest to the parents as possible in the space available. We plan to revise and add to it as need arises.

Charles Wefler, Principal

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Black Oak School is one of six schools making up the Calumet Township School System.

The Calumet Township schools take care of all the pupils in Calumet Township outside the city limits of Gary and the town limits of Griffith which have their own school boards.

The Calumet Township Schools are under the direction of Harold DeVault, Township Trustee. Mr. DeVault, assisted by three advisory board members, levies the tax rate, and administers the business of the schools.

The number of pupils in the township schools have increased at the rate of approximately 200 a year until we have over 3000 pupils enrolled in the Township at the present time.

Black Oak School alone has grown from a one, room, one teacher building to 18 rooms, 30 teachers and 1200 pupils.

Plans are now under way to add an addition to the Black Oak School.

Many improvements have been made at Black Oak School until it is now considered one of the best schools in the township. These improvements include:

Purchase of additional playground. Black topping part of the playground. Complete tuck pointing of the brick portion of the building. All classrooms redecorated. New window shades, pupil desks, bookshelves, bulletin boards.

In addition to the physical properties of the building, each classroom now has its own library of reading books, and every pupil in grades 4 through 7 has a dictionary at his disposal.

SCHOOL CALENDAR 1954-55

Holidays observed by closing school and vacation times:

September 6	Labor Day
September 7	1st day of School
October 21-22	State Teachers' Association
November 25-26	Thanksgiving Vacation
December 20-January 2	Christmas Vacation
April 8-11	Good Friday and Easter Monday
May 27	Last Day of School

29th & Burr Sts. B L A C K O A K S C H O O L
Gary, Indiana

Calumet Township
Phone: Tilden 4-1920

1953-54 SCHOOL PERSONNEL

Trustee
Principal
Office Clerk
Teachers:

Mr. Harold DeVault
Mr. Charles Wefler
Miss Clara Coffman

Grade 1	Mrs. Buchler
1	Mrs. Crawford
1	Mrs. Daloy
1	Mrs. McKool
1	Mrs. McLean
1	Mrs. Saffran
1	Mrs. Young
2	Mrs. Ross
2	Miss Slocomb
2	Mrs. Wirth
3	Mrs. Bateman
3	Mrs. Gibbs
3	Mrs. Owen
3	Mrs. Reeves
4	Mrs. Fielden

Grade 4	Mrs. Schultz
4	Mrs. Simons
4	Miss Weiner
5	Mrs. Dorsey
5	Mrs. Rolf
5	Mrs. Thompson
5	Mrs. Wright
6	Mrs. Carleton
6	Mr. Catchur
6	Mr. Sandbach
6	Mr. Yacko
7	Mrs. Peterson
7	Mr. Tanner
7	Mr. Tsangaris
7	Mr. Weiger

Cafeteria Cook

Mrs. S. Edwards

Janitors

Mr. D. Arnold, Mrs. R. Reid, Mrs. M. Culler

P.T.A. Pres. Mrs. Nichols, Vice Pres. Mr. Swank, Sect. Mrs. Peterson
Teas. Mr. Tanner - P.T.A. meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Room Mothers Club - Meets the 1st Monday of each month.

Mothers Club - Meets every 4th Tuesday of each month.

Other Calumet Township Schools:

Calumet High School
Hosford Park Grade School
Longfellow Grade School
Ridge Grade School
Ross Grade School

Mr. W. Swihart, Principal
Mrs. Hartsough, Head Teacher
Mr. K. Snider, Principal
Mrs. Watkins, Head Teacher
Mr. L. Zehr, Principal

County Personnel: Offices at Crown Point

County Superintendent of Schools
Supervision of grades 1-4
Supervision of grades 5-8

Mr. R. J. Brannock
Miss Alino Callis
Mr. P. Maynard

School Nurse

Mrs. Helen McKinney

Attendance Officer

Mr. T. Houchin

Bus Drivers

Mrs. Gilmore, Mr. F. Ensweiler, Mr. M. Ensweiler,
Mr. H. Harmon, Mr. G. Koplin

ROUNDUP

Each Spring, usually starting in April, the Parent Teachers Association conduct their annual Spring Roundup of Pre-School children.

House to house calls are made, and bulletins are issued from the school, requesting that all children who are to begin school in September be registered. This help the school officials in planning enough rooms and teachers to take care of all beginning pupils.

This Spring Roundup is consluded by setting aside two days during the first or second week in May when the parents may bring their children to school for a physical examination. At this time the county nurses, assisted by competent doctors give the children a physical examination and immunization shots for small-pox and diptheria.

Any defects in the child that maybe corrected are called to the attention of the parents so that they may be taken care of before school starts in the fall.

Children who are not six (6) years of age on or before September 10 are not admitted to the schools (Grades 1-8) for the current school year. This rule is MANDATORY upon all schools under supervision of the Lake County Board of Education. It is mandatory upon THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT upon the TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE, upon ALL PRINCIPALS, and upon ALL TEACHERS. Only the Lake County Board of Education has any authority to suspend, to alter, or to repeal this rule.

SCHOOL CLUBS

The four seventh grade classes have been divided into interest clubs for activity the last hour of the day. On Tuesdays and Thursdays when Mr. Barbiori is here to have band practice that hour, those not taking band are outside for supervised play on nice days. If the weather is inclement, they stay in their own rooms. On Fridays, those interested in Bible Club attend that. Here the boys and girls learn to sing together are sometimes entertained by outside talent and receive supervised training in Bible reading.

Mr. Tanner is in charge of the debate club which chose as its first question to debate "Resolved that 18-year olds should have the right to vote."

Mrs. Peterson has a good-sized science club which has followed Mr. Wizard's book of science secrets in conducting simple experiments and learned some of the simple phenomena of science with regard to gravity, air pressure, the law of falling bodies, etc.

Mr. Weiger, who is a dramatics major, has sponsored the dramatic club which gave "The Christmas Carol" just before Christmas. This production was tape recorded and then broadcast to all the rooms. The dramatic club also put on an old fashioned melodrama as their part for the school carnival in February. This was an original play written by members of the club.

Those who are interested in none of the above mentioned activities have games or supervised study in Mr. Tsangaris' room.

In this way, we appeal to all likes and interests and feel that the time is well spent.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

For the past two years Calumet Township has had grades 1-6 on half-day session and grades 7-12 on full day sessions.

Since we will have an additional school (Longfellow School) in the Township next fall, we will be able to put more of the grades on a full time basis. The number of additional grades that can be put on a full day basis depends upon the number of beginning pupils in the Township next fall. Indications are that grades 1 through 4 will have to remain on a half-day schedule.

SCHOOL CAFETERIA

Hot lunches may be obtained at below cost prices from the School cafeteria. This is made possible by surplus commodities donated by the State Welfare Department and through cooperation with the School Lunch Division of the State Dept. of Public Instruction.

The hot lunch consists of meat, cheese or meat substitute, one or two vegetables, bread and butter dessert and one-half pint of milk.

Milk is also sold at noon and during the morning and afternoon recesses.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHY

Sometime at the start of the school year, individual photographs will be taken of each pupil. A packet of pictures will be sent to the home. Parents may purchase all or part of the packet and return the money to the school. If the pictures are not wanted, the packet may be returned without obligation.

During the closing weeks of school a photograph will be made of the homeroom group. Parents may purchase the group picture or return it to the school.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is urged for all school pupils. However, parents and teachers should constantly be on the alert for contagious diseases.

When the child is kept at home for longer than one day, please call or inform the school office, Tildon 4-1920. When the child returns to school send a written note explaining the absence. We are required to keep accurate records on each child.

BOOK RENTAL AND SUPPLIES

Book rental for the first and second grades is \$4.40, third and fourth is \$4.90, fifth and sixth is \$5.40, and seventh and eighth is \$6.50. The rental is payable during the first week of school, and it includes the books and workbooks. Pupils entering or withdrawing during the year are charged or refunded a proportionate amount on hard back books. The above book rental is for the 1953-54 school year. Economic conditions will cause the rental to vary. The price is usually set just before the opening of school.

The teacher may ask for an additional fee for crayons and other supplies, such as paper and pencils.

FIRST YEAR OF SCHOOL

The first year of school is a very great step for a small child. It should not be so great as to cause an emotional disturbance. The wise mother will talk of school and how enjoyable it will be to meet new friends and share new toys and experiences with other boys and girls. She should not forget however that he is to become a member of a large group and she should give him some previous training.

Our township supervisors have prepared a bulletin to help parents who are starting to school for the first time. These will be issued, free of charge, at the time of the roundup.

The National Education Association also puts out a helpful book. "Happy Journey" Preparing Your Child for School. Which may be obtained from the National Education Association, 1201 16th Street, N. W. Washington 6, D. C. for 40¢ a copy.

TESTING PROGRAM Promotion and Retention Policies

Pupils are allowed to progress as much as possible at their own rate of speed. Just as all children do not learn to walk and talk at the same age, all children cannot be expected to learn to read at the same age.

All first grades are started in a pre-primer and then progress through a series of pre-primers, primers and first readers according to their own ability.

If at the end of the first year of school a child has not completed all the reading levels assigned to the first grade, he is not compelled to begin over again the following year, but may begin again in the fall, at the same level at which he was reading in the spring. Teachers' therefore will have several different reading level groups in each room.

The same rule applies in a lesser degree to the other school subjects.

PATROL BOYS & GIRLS

Boys and girls from the 7th grades are selected to assist in traffic problems of the school in the halls, playground, and on the school busses.

Pupils apply for membership on the School Patrol and are selected on the basis of leadership and scholarship and must be willing to work hard enough to maintain these qualities. Anyone abusing the authority vested in him will be replaced by someone on the waiting list.

It is considered an honor to belong to the School Patrol. We are affiliated with the Chicago Motor Club, who supplies our patrol with belt, raincoats, etc.

We also try to arrange at least two trips a year for the patrol boys and girls. This year they were taken to the Shrine Circus at Hammond and to Chicago to see a baseball game.

HEALTH

Although we stress good attendance at school, we ask you to help us prevent the spreading of coughs and colds by keeping your child home when he is sick.

If the child complains of feeling ill before leaving home in the morning, check to see if he has a temperature or sore throat. It not only will be helpful to other children, but will keep your child from becoming seriously ill. If your child comes down with a communicable disease, please report it to the school office. Have your doctor issue a written statement permitting the child's return to school.

Proper clothing and diet can help prevent many colds and sickness. The school nurse visits the school at least twice each week. In special cases she will visit in the home.

When your child becomes ill at school or is accidentally hurt, we will call you (if no phone, you should give us a near by number.)

We cannot make a general policy of transporting pupils home except by regular bus routes. Ill pupils will be put in our health room until you arrange to come. Exception will be made in cases of emergencies. In emergencies, local doctors are on call.

While all possible precautions are taken at school to prevent children from being injured, accidents will sometime occur. The school does not carry accident insurance on the children, and it is therefore the responsibility of the parents to take care of cost resulting from injuries at school.

The Township Council has been discussing accident insurance for school children. Under this plan the parents may carry group accident insurance which protects the child both at school and on the way to and from school. The cost is usually \$1.00 per child for the school year. This plan would be optional, of course, the parents desiring this protection.

CONCLUSION

The entire object of true education is to make people not merely do the right things, but enjoy the right things; not merely industrious, but to love industry; not merely learned, but to love knowledge; not merely pure, but to love purity; not merely just, but to hunger and thirst after justice.

John Ruskin